7148677/2023/SEC-IV-EFS01

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

Public Services – A.P. Forest Department – Departmental proceedings initiated against Sri V. Satya Prasad, Forest Range Officer (Retired), earlier Dammapeta Range of Khammam Division, under Rule 20 of Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rules, 1991 – Punishment of "withholding of 5% (Five percent) of pension for a period of (3) three years, besides recovery of an amount of Rs.4,19,528/- along with interest thereupon" against the Charged Officer - Imposed - Orders – Issued.

ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (Sec.IV) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Ms.No.19 **Dated:23.03.2023**

Read the following:

1)From the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, A.P., Guntur, Lr.Ref.No.22163/2011/A&DC-3, dated 14.12.2021.
2)Memo.No.2542/Sec.IV/A2/2021, EFS&T (Sec.IV) Dept., dated 11.05.2022.
3)From the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, A.P., Guntur, Lr.Ref.no.22163/2011/A&DC-3, dated 16.11.2022.
4)Letter No.2542/Sec.IV/A1/2021, EFS&T (Sec.IV) Dept., dated 23.01.2023.
5)From the Secretary, APPSC, Lr.No.GAD03-APPS0DCC/22/2023-DC.SEC-APPSC (Computer No.1977460), dated 09.03.2023.

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ORDER:

In the reference 1st read above, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, A.P., Guntur has informed that the following Article of Charge was issued to Sri V. Satya Prasad, Forest Range Officer, earlier Dammapeta Range of Khammam Division by the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, A.P., Hyderabad in Ref.No.48708/2007/PXT-1 (iii), dated 05.04.2008, under Rule 20 of Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rules, 1991:-

Article:"That the Forest Range Officer has exhibited gross neglect of duty in charging excess irregular, infructuous and false expenditure of Rs.4,19,528/- towards the work carried out by the VSS under his control in Range of Dammapeta".

2. The Charged Officer acknowledged the receipt of the Article of Charge on 30.01.2010 and submitted his written defence statement on 22.06.2010. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, A.P., Hyderabad has appointed the Conservator of Forests, Khammam Circle as Inquiry Officer and the Divisional Forest Officer, Khammam as Presenting Officer in Proc.No.48708/2007/P3 (i&ii), dated 14.03.2010, for conducting the regular enquiry.

3. The Inquiry Officer & Chief Conservator of Forests, Khammam Circle has completed the enquiry and submitted his findings in Rc.No.3590/2007/M1, dated 25.05.2011, wherein the Inquiry Officer has concluded as follows:

Findings:"All the charges are proved beyond any reasonable doubt. Further, the charges are based on solid documentary evidences and on the basis of actual field inspection. During the course of enquiry also the delinquent Range Officer has failed to give any reasonable and convincing defence thereby proving all charges".

[P.T.O]

4. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, A.P., Hyderabad has communicated the findings of the Inquiry Officer to the Charged Officer in Ref.No.22163/2011/K-II/1, dated 01.07.2011, to submit further defence. The Charged Officer acknowledged the receipt of the final notice on 25.05.2017 and submitted his further defence statement on 03.07.2017.

5. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, Telangana State, Hyderabad in Ref.No.845/2017/D&A-3, dated 14.02.2018, has transmitted the issue to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, A.P., Guntur along with records, to finalize the disciplinary case in the capacity of disciplinary authority, which was initiated in the erstwhile Andhra Pradesh, as the Charged Officer has been allotted to the Andhra Pradesh State on inter State transfer on Mutual basis.

6. The Charged Officer has retired from Government Service on attaining the age of superannuation on 31.10.2021. Hence, the disciplinary proceedings are continued under Rule 9 of A.P. Revised Pension Rules, 1980.

7. On examination of the matter, Government have taken a provisional decision to impose a punishment of "withholding of 5% (five percent) of pension for a period of (3) years, besides recovery of an amount of Rs.4,19,528/- (Rupees Four Lakhs Nineteen Thousand Five Hundred and Twenty Eight Only) along with interest thereupon", against Sri V. Satya Prasad, Forest Range Officer (Retd.), earlier Dammapeta Range of Khammam Division, under Rule 9 of A.P. Revised Pension Rules, 1980. Accordingly, in Memo., 2nd read above, a Show-cause Notice was issued to the Charged Officer through Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, A.P., Guntur. The Charged Officer has acknowledged the Show-cause Notice on 27.10.2022 but did not submit his explanation within stipulated time.

8. The Secretary, Andhra Pradesh Public Service Commission, in the letter 5th read above, has stated that the Commission agreed with the proposal of the Government, to impose a punishment of "withholding of 5% (Five percent) of pension for a period of (3) three years, besides recovery of an amount of Rs.4,19,528/- (Rupees Four Lakhs Nineteen Thousand Five Hundred and Twenty Eight only) along with interest thereupon" against Sri V. Satya Prasad, Forest Range Officer (Retd.), earlier Dammapeta Range of Khammam Division.

9. After careful examination of the entire issue, the Government hereby order to impose a punishment of "withholding of 5% (Five percent) of pension for a period of (3) three years, besides recovery of an amount of Rs.4,19,528/- (Rupees Four Lakhs Nineteen Thousand Five Hundred and Twenty Eight only) along with interest thereupon as per G.O.Ms.No.33, Finance (TFR.1) Department, dated 09.02.2006" against Sri V. Satya Prasad, Forest Range Officer (Retd.), earlier Dammapeta Range of Khammam Division, under Rule 9 of Andhra Pradesh Revised Pension Rules, 1980.

10. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, A.P., Mangalagiri shall take necessary action accordingly.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

NEERABH KUMAR PRASAD
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To

Sri V. Satya Prasad, Forest Range Officer (Retd.), earlier Dammapeta Range of Khammam Division through Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, A.P., Mangalagiri.

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The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, A.P., Mangalagiri.

Copy to:

The Accountant General (A&E), Andhra Pradesh, Vijayawada.
The Director of Treasuries & Accounts, Andhra Pradesh, Mangalagiri.
The Secretary, A.P. Public Service Commission, Vijayawada.
The Secretary to A.P. Vigilance Commission, A.P. Secretariat, Velagapudi.
The PS to M (Energy, EFS & T, Mines&Geology).
The PS to Special Chief Secretary to Government, EFS & T Department.
SF/SC (Computer No.1598317).

//FORWARDED :: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER